



2016 Candidate Questionnaire

The Greater Federal Way Chamber of Commerce extends the invitation to all candidates to complete its Candidate Questionnaire. Your completed questionnaire will be shared with our membership and will be posted online to our website, federalwaychamber.com. **Deadline is 4 p.m. on September 6, 2016.** Please send your responses electronically to rmartin@federalwaychamber.com. Thank you for your interest in serving our community as an elected official.

Name: Mike Pellicciotti

Position you are seeking: 30th Legislative District – Position One

Education: J.D. (*magna cum laude*); M.R.D. (U.S. Fulbright Scholar, studying economic development); B.S. (Business Administration, *magna cum laude*).

Current mailing address: PO Box 26236, Federal Way, WA 98093

Telephone: 253-237-2838

Email: mike@electmikep.com

Website: www.electmikep.com

ABOUT THE QUESTIONNAIRE. *There are three sections to the Questionnaire. Please limit your answers to no more than 200 words max. The Calibri font is set for 11 points and the box is formatted to expand with your answer.*

SECTION I: BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC ISSUES

1. In your role as an elected official, how do you plan to enhance and support the business climate in the Federal Way region?

I BELIEVE THAT A STATE REPRESENTATIVE FOR A REGION IS THE LEADER AND EXTERNAL FACE OF THE REGION. I HAVE SPOKEN TO THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE AT THEIR DOORS WHO RECOGNIZE THE NEED FOR GREATER BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT IN OUR AREA, ESPECIALLY THOSE JOBS THAT WELCOME NEW YOUNG PROFESSIONS TO OUR AREA. GIVEN THE CHALLENGES FACING OUR REGION, NOW MORE THAN EVER, WE NEED TO STRONGLY ADVOCATE OUTSIDE OF OUR AREA TO HIGHLIGHT THE MANY BENEFITS OF MOVING A NEW PROFESSIONALS AND BUSINESS TO OUR REGION. MUCH OF THIS WORK WILL BE DONE THROUGH SMARTER POLICIES THAT RECOGNIZE THE UNIQUE NEEDS AND RESOURCES OF OUR AREA, BUT IT WILL ALSO REQUIRE CONNECTING THROUGHOUT THE STATE TO ENCOURAGE GREATER BUSINESS AND HUMAN CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN OUR AREA.

2. Homelessness is a national and state-wide problem impacting both businesses and their communities. What are you going to do legislatively to address this issue?

OVER THE LAST YEAR THROUGH MY WORK WITH THE FEDERAL WAY HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION, I HAVE SEEN HOMELESSNESS INCREASE 125% PERCENT IN FEDERAL WAY. THE FIRST THING THAT NEEDS TO HAPPEN TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS IN OUR COMMUNITY IS TO RECOGNIZE THAT DIFFERENT PEOPLE ARE BROUGHT TO HOMELESSNESS FOR DIFFERENT REASONS. IT'S NOT JUST ONE GROUP OF PEOPLE. WHILE IT'S GENERALLY ROOTED IN POVERTY AND MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES, LEGISLATIVELY IDENTIFYING AND RESPONDING TO THE

MULTIPLE LAYERS TO THIS CHALLENGE NEEDS TO COME FIRST. WHAT WE'RE CURRENTLY DOING ISN'T WORKING, AND SIMPLY THROWING MONEY AT THE PROBLEM WITHOUT TAKING AN EVIDENCE-BASED APPROACH TO THE ISSUE ISN'T SMART. I BELIEVE THAT TO ADDRESS THIS LOCAL AND STATEWIDE ISSUE, WE NEED TO PRESERVE CURRENT SOCIAL SERVICES AND ALSO TRY NEW CREATIVE HOUSING-FIRST PROPOSALS, ESPECIALLY IN THE URBAN CENTERS, SO THAT THOSE IN THE LARGER CITIES CAN FIND STABLE HOUSING. ALSO, IN PARTICULAR, YOUTH HOMELESSNESS, INCLUDING AMONG MANY CURRENT FEDERAL WAY SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENTS REQUIRES AN IMMEDIATE RESPONSE FROM THE STATE.

3. Currently our legislature is facing a \$100,000 a day fine due to the McCleary decision. How do you plan to solve the need for education funding to comply with the Supreme Court ruling?

PURSUANT TO THE FACT THAT TAXPAYERS ARE FACING \$100,000-A-DAY FINES FOR THE INACTION OF LEGISLATORS AND CURRENT LEGISLATORS ARE BEING HELD IN CONTEMPT OF COURT FOR FAILING TO FUND BASIC EDUCATION, RESOURCES WILL NEED TO FOUND TO HONOR THIS CONSTITUTIONAL DUTY OF FUNDING BASIC EDUCATION. I STRONGLY OPPOSE AN INCOME TAX. I ALSO BELIEVE THERE SHOULD REMAIN A STATE CAP ON PROPERTY TAXES. IN ADDRESSING THIS DIFFICULT BUDGET DECISION, HOWEVER, I PLAN TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE EFFORT BY BRINGING MY EXPERIENCE MANAGING EFFORTS TO COMBAT GOVERNMENT FRAUD, WASTE, AND ABUSE, TO BETTER BRING EFFICIENCIES AND COST-STAVINGS IN GOVERNMENT. ANY CONSIDERATION OF TAXES AFTER THAT SHOULD BE A LAST RESORT AND REVIEWED IN THE CONTEXT OF HOW IT AFFECTS AND SERVES THE AVERAGE TAXPAYER.

A CREATIVE ALTERNATIVE TO THE LEVY SWAP TO REDUCE THE STATE'S *McCLEARY* OBLIGATION IS A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT THAT ALLOWS ALL LOCAL SCHOOL LEVIES FUNDING BASIC EDUCATION TO BE LOCKED IN PLACE PERMANENTLY. THIS COULD BE AN IMPORTANT COMPONENT AND BE A MORE MANAGEABLE ALTERNATIVE MEANS FOR THE STATE TO FULLY FUND BASIC EDUCATION.

4. Given challenges in social services (i.e., Western State), transportation and education funding, will you be willing to support revenue enhancements? If so, briefly explain how you will address the difficult revenue/expense budget decision that must be made.

I DO NOT FORSEE DURING THIS NEXT SESSION FOR A NEED FOR FURTHER REVENUE FOR SOCIAL SERVICES OR TRANSPORTATION, ESPECIALLY FOLLOWING THE RECENT GAS TAX. I STRONGLY OPPOSE AN INCOME TAX. I ALSO BELIEVE THERE SHOULD REMAIN A STATE CAP ON PROPERTY TAXES. PLEASE SEE THE ANSWER ABOVE FOR FURTHER COMMENTS ON FUNDING BASIC EDUCATION.

5. If elected, how will you work legislatively with the Greater Federal Way Chamber of Commerce on economic development and other business initiatives? Please be specific.

I VIEW THE AUBURN AND FEDERAL WAY CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AS KEY CONSTITUENCIES OF THE 30TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT, WHO SHOULD BE CONSULTED PRIOR TO THE PASSAGE OF LEGISLATION THAT WOULD AFFECT LOCAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT. AS A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL WAY CHAMBER, I HOPE TO BE BETTER INFORMED OF THE CURRENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEEDS IN THE REGION. I WOULD ALSO BE AVAILABLE TO CHAMBER LEADERSHIP TO DISCUSS RELEVANT ISSUES.

SECTION II: POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT

1. Have you sought elective office before? If so, please describe the office, the level and outcome.

I AM A FIRST-TIME CANDIDATE.

2. Do you have any previous experience with the local government office you seek? If yes, please describe.

I HAVE SIGNIFICANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE WITH THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS. AS A KING COUNTY DEPUTY PROSECUTOR, I HAVE ENFORCED THE LAWS CREATED BY THE LEGISLATURE. AS AN APPELLATE PROSECUTOR, I HAVE ARGUED CASES TO OUR STATE SUPREME COURT TO GIVE MEANING TO LANGUAGE INARTFULLY CRAFTED BY THE LEGISLATURE. THROUGH THE POLICY-MAKING PROCESS, I'VE INITIATED LEGISLATIVE IDEAS AND LANGUAGE THAT HAVE BECOME LAW. AS CHAIR OF THE EQUAL JUSTICE COALITION, I HAVE WORKED WITH BOTH PARTIES TO EDUCATE THE LEGISLATURE ON THE IMPORTANCE OF LEGISLATIVE POLICIES. AS A STATE ATTORNEY, I HAVE ADVISED POLICY-MAKERS ON THE CONSTITUTIONALITY AND APPROPRIATENESS OF PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE BILLS. AS A CLERK AT OUR STATE SUPREME COURT, I DRAFTED OPINIONS FOR THE COURT IN ITS INTERPRETING OF LEGISLATION. I'VE DONE NEARLY EVERYTHING ASSOCIATED WITH THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS BUT WRITE LEGISLATIVE BILLS AS A LEGISLATOR. THROUGH THESE PREVIOUS EXPERIENCES, I HAVE AN OUTSIDE PERSPECTIVE ON THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS AND WHY IT IS IMPORTANT TO CONSIDER THOSE ON THE RECEIVING END OF LAWS, SO THAT LAWS DON'T HAVE UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES.

3. How has your Campaign positively impacted the business climate in the South Sound?

FOR A DECADE, I HAVE WORKED AS A PROSECUTOR IN THE SOUTH SOUND, WORKING TO PROMOTE PUBLIC SAFETY TO MAKE THE AREA A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE AND DO BUSINESS. THROUGH MY CAMPAIGN, I HAVE ADVOCATED FOR THE STATE TO BE SMARTER ABOUT CRIMINAL JUSTICE, ESPECIALLY RELATED TO VIOLENT AND ECONOMIC CRIMES, SO THAT WE CAN PROMOTE GREATER SAFETY AND PROTECT BUSINESS INTERESTS IN OUR COMMUNITY. IN THIS CAMPAIGN I HAVE ALSO SOUGHT TO INITIATE A DISCUSSION ON HOW WE CAN CREATE A LARGER VISION FOR SOUTH KING COUNTY IN THE NEXT 5-10 YEARS, BETTER USING STATE RESOURCES TO RECRUIT A NEW GENERATION TO MOVE TO THE SOUTH SOUND.

SECTION III: CAMPAIGN ACTIVITY

1. What is your campaign budget, how much have you raised, and what are your primary sources of funding?

AS OF THIS WEEK'S REPORTING PERIOD (09/13/16), WE HAVE RAISED \$128,618, WHICH INCLUDES OUR IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS. OF THIS, THE MAJORITY OF OUR TOTAL DOLLARS AND TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED HAVE COME FROM INDIVIDUAL PEOPLE, AND WE HAVE MORE IN-DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS THAN OUR OPPONENT.

2. Please share your major endorsements from the South Sound region (*This scope should include the surrounding South King area in addition to Federal Way itself*)

I HAVE SOUGHT INDIVIDUAL ENDORSEMENTS FROM PEOPLE WHO SERVE THE 30TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT. THESE INDIVIDUALS ENDORSING OUR CAMPAIGN WHO SERVE OUR DISTRICT INCLUDE CONGRESSMEN, CITY MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS, COUNTY AND STATEWIDE ELECTED OFFICIALS, AND OTHER LOCAL PUBLIC SAFETY LEADERS.

3. Have you contracted with a firm or individual to manage your campaign? If so, please provide the name and address of the firm/individual. If not, what are your plans regarding management of the campaign?

I HAVE A FULL-TIME CAMPAIGN MANAGER: MADDIE CHRIST, 32700 PACIFIC HWY S., SUITE #4, FEDERAL WAY.